



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: **Q80853**

**Noboru ASAUCHI**

Appln. No.: **10/816,167**

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: 7872

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: **April 02, 2004**

For: **NON-CONTACT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A DEVICE AND ITS  
EXPENDABLE CONTAINER**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations: **English language abstracts, and computer-generated English translations of the specification, submitted herewith, satisfy the requirements for concise statements of relevance for Japanese Application Laid-Open Nos. 2002-063097, 08-036623, 11-306297, 08-086863, 08-094746, 2001-191511, and 2002-005724.**

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
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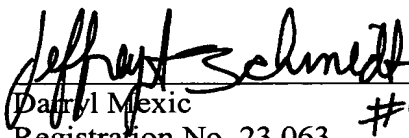
WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

DM/lck

**Date: August 18, 2004**

*for*   
Darryl Mexic  
Registration No. 23,063 #41,574

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Application Number	10/816,167
Confirmation Number	7872
Filing Date	April 02, 2004
First Named Inventor	Noboru ASAUCHI
Art Unit	Not yet assigned
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q80853

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	2002-063097	A	02/28/2002	YU YUEH-O	Yes
		JP	08-036623	A	02/06/1996	TAU GIKEN KK	Yes
		JP	11-306297	A	11/05/1999	NIPPON STEEL CORP.	Yes
		JP	08-086863	A	04/02/1996	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM)	Yes
		JP	08-094746	A	04/12/1996	INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES (IBM)	Yes
		JP	2001-191511	A	07/17/2001	RICOH CO., LTD.	Yes
		JP	2002-005724	A	01/09/2002	CANON INC.	Yes

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.